

Montana Newsletter

Montana State Library

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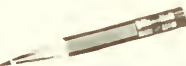
News



VOLUME 16, NO. 6

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1987

*Law
Revision*



NEW FEDERATION LAW PROPOSED

The Law Revision Committee at a retreat in Great Falls October 8-10 focused on creating a new federation law that would permit any type of library to join a federation. Now, only public libraries can belong. The law would also allow federations to develop in unique ways.

The committee also worked on a proposed revision of the authority of the State Library Commission. (MLA-22-1-103) They also considered minor revisions of the public library laws (22-1-302) and of the state documents depository law (22-1-213 & 217).

The Law Revision Committee encourages feedback on the proposed revisions from the library community. A copy of the proposed federation law and its rationale is enclosed. Response should be made by February 1st, 1988 to Sara Parker, Montana State Librarian at the State Library.

LSCA PROJECT AREAS SUGGESTED-RESPONSE NEEDED

The Montana State Library Advisory Council has prepared a list of possible projects for Title I and Title III Library Services and Construction Act Funding. These federal funds, which provide support to libraries, are targeted toward library services (Title I) and toward interlibrary cooperation (Title III).

The Advisory Council selected seven project areas:

- Development of a database about Montana comprising comprehensive information about the state.
- Funding for retrospective conversion; adding holdings to the WLI database.
- Funding for a document delivery system that transports interlibrary loan materials faster and more efficiently.
- Funding for a statewide centennial-related public relations campaign for libraries.
- Funding for automation projects in more libraries.
- A statewide coordinated collection development project.
- Funds to implement the continuing education plan.

The Montana State Library and the Montana State Library Commission welcome opinions and comments from the library community on the merits of these areas and on how best to implement them. Interested persons should contact Sheila Gates at the State Library.

REVISION OF STATISTICAL FORM SUPPORTS NATIONAL EFFORT

The Montana public library annual statistical report form is different from those sent in the past. The forms were revised in response to a request from the American Library Association. The ALA asked Montana libraries to join in a national effort to use a standardized statistical form. Standardization will produce a better information resource for national library statistics.

Many of the new questions on the survey request information which many libraries are unable to provide. It is part of the goal of the new form to make librarians aware, nationally, of the areas in which it is important to keep statistics.



NEW "800" NUMBER HELPS LIBRARIES WITH READY REFERENCE

A Reference/Information Print Project is underway at the Montana State Library. The project, which will yield a statistical picture of the amounts and types of ready-reference questions generated by Montana libraries, features a "800" toll-free number (800-555-0887) that all Montana librarians are encouraged to call with ready-reference questions. Any topic that can be answered quickly, usually through consultation of just one resource. An example of such a question might be, "What is the author of the periodical, Algorithms in the Cultural Reference?" Librarians at Montana State Library will use these reference materials to help answer questions.

The project will continue through September, 1988. A statistical analysis of use of the 800 number at the State Library, Lewis & Clark and Pannell, Billings Libraries will be made. The project will have a short training in ready-reference, Great-Kidder Library will have training in Great-Kidder Library. The project will otherwise remain intact.

FAXNET PROJECT TO GIVE FAXNET MACHINES TO MONTANA PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The Montana Faxnet project will soon select 10 public libraries to receive free Telefax machines. Some Montana libraries have already been enjoying the use of the "fax" machines. These programs are part of a trial program. Glasgow, Sidney, and Plentywood public libraries are participating in this demonstration phase. Fort Peck and Dawson Community Colleges are also active in the experiment as are some Montana hospitals.

Operation of the "fax" machines is similar to operation of wordprocessing machines, but instead of the machine producing a copy, the copy emerges from a fax machine at the other end of the telephone connection.

The use of fax machines has many advantages with the opportunity to communicate directly with colleagues, librarians, and other professionals. It is a fast, convenient way to make a connection and transfer the message of information.

Public libraries interested in applying to receive a fax machine should contact the Montana Faxnet Project, c/o State Law Library, 210 W. Sanders, Helena, MT 59601. The deadline for submission of applications will be January 15. The machines will be distributed by April 15.

LIBRARIANS WILL LEARN TO "LOOK AROUND"

"Looking Around: Planning for Your Library Community" will be the

subject of a 1-day workshop offered by the Collection Development Committee and the Montana State Library.

"An understanding of one's potential users and their needs is essential to the collection development process," said Mary Bushing, Library Development Officer at Montana State Library. The workshop, which will be presented three times, will explore how these involved with the collection development process should take their cues from the needs of their communities.

The first of the Lewis & Clark Library in Helena and the State Library at Eastern Montana College in Billings will hold the workshops in Missoula on Thursday, March 24, in Lewistown on Friday, March 25 and in Glacier on Saturday, March 26. Each workshop will be from 9:00 to 4:00.

Librarians will be required to send, along with their librarian, a policy maker, a trustee, a board member or a support administrator. Registration information will be mailed to all Montana libraries in early January.

LIBRARIES RECEIVING GRANT FUNDS MUST FILE COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY

At their October meeting the State Library Commission accepted the recommendation of the Collection Development Committee that libraries receiving grant monies through the State Library must file a collection development policy with the State Library.

The collection development Committee has devised

a standardized set of criteria which libraries should use in stating their collection development policies.

For more information libraries should contact Mary Bushing at the State Library.

GRAMM-RUDMAN CUTS HIT LIBRARY COMMUNITY

If recent Gramm-Rudman budget cuts become effective, some Montana library projects will be eliminated or severely cut back. The Montana Library Commission, faced with cutting \$57,532 from library services in the state, voted to divide the cut among library services and construction act titles I, II and III.

Specifically, the 6.5% reduction comprises \$13,100 from title II and \$44,000 from titles I and III. Four, rather than six Public/School Library cooperation projects will be funded under the plan and training for the Reference Project will be deferred until 1989.

The Commission, at their December 9th meeting, also reelected their officers and named dates and places for their 1988 meetings. Mary Hudspeth will continue as chair and C.E. "Abe" Hornum will continue as vice chair.

The commission will meet on the following dates in Helena: February 17, April 30 (during the Montana Library Association conference), June 22 and December 14. The commission will meet August 17 in Hamilton and October 12 in Hardin. Anyone interested in Montana libraries is encouraged to attend Commission meetings.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MONTANA LIBRARIES

The Association for Library Services to Children announces a National Banner Contest to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Caldecott Medal. Groups of children preschool through grade eight are invited to prepare original banners illuminating on a book that has won a Caldecott Medal or has been a Caldecott Honor Book 1938-1987. Any organized group of children with adult leadership is eligible. For an entry form and suggestions for banner construction, send a stamped letter-size envelope to Banner Contest Coordinator: Elizabeth Huntton, Director of Children's Services, Chicago Public Library, 425 North Michigan Ave., Children's Services, Chicago Public Library, 425 North Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60611.

Friends of Libraries U.S.A. (FOLUSA) announces its 1988 awards competition. Awards in four different categories will be \$500 each. Applicants must be members of FOLUSA. For application details contact Sandy Doinick, American Library Association, 50 East Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

The Montana Committee for the Humanities sponsors travelling speakers who give presentations on varied historical topics. The MCH gives grants to organizations to cover the costs of the speaker. A brochure describing the presentations is available from the MCH, P.O. Box 8036, Missoula, MT 59807 243-6022.

Librarians.

ALA's 45,000 members help each other grow, sharing ideas, experiences and concerns. ALA members are involved in the decisions that will shape the information age and the leadership role of librarians.

As the oldest and largest library association in the world, ALA membership provides decision making opportunities in technology, services and professional development.

Leaders.

You'll receive American Libraries with over 100 monthly job listings, discounts on publications and graphics, reduced registration rates at ALA conferences, eligibility to vote and hold office and eligibility for four group insurance plans.

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The dues are affordable — \$35 for first time personal members, renewing members \$70, students \$18, non-salaried or retired librarians \$25, trustees and friends \$32.

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- VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐
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Home address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Library and work address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Send mail to ☐ Home ☐ Work

Additional information on ALA's divisions and roundtables and how to get the most from your membership will be sent with your membership card.

Send to
Membership Services
American Library Association
50 East Huron Street
Chicago, IL 60611
312/444-6780



MAJOR ARTISTS CREATE POSTERS FOR PEACE

The Children's Book Council commissioned four international artists to interpret the theme of peace.

The color prints and a booklet of books with peace as their theme are available. For a brochure, send a SASE to CBC, 6/ Irving Place, NY, NY 10003. Attn.: Spring brochure

AROUND THE STATE

Montana State Library Commissioner Karen, Mary Hudsouth, has a new address: 1100 University Avenue, Bozeman, MT 59717.

The Missoula Public Library, Missoula, MT, will give you a free copy of the new book, "The Great Plains: A History of the Great Plains" by John H. Hinkle, Jr. and John H. Hinkle, Jr. The book is available for \$1.00 per copy.

Bozeman City Public Library has a new collection of books about the history of Montana. The books are available for \$1.00 per copy. The books are available for \$1.00 per copy. The books are available for \$1.00 per copy.

Missouri before accepting the position in Miles City.

Miles City is one of the libraries selected by the Carnegie Corporation video project to receive a videotext recorder.

The Hearst Free Library in Anaconda announces they have increased the hours that they are open to 20 per week. The library is now open on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

Hayden-Hill County Library announced a dinner with speakers on January 30th at seven o'clock at the Oak Inn. The speakers will be: Hugh H. Hinkle, Jr. and John H. Hinkle, Jr. The dinner is free.

ALA RECEIVES FUNDING FOR POETRY PROGRAMMING

The American Library Association (ALA) has received funding to develop library programming materials to complement the new PBS series "Voices and Visions," a series of 13 television programs on modern American poets. ALA will soon send free kits to about 16,000 public and college libraries.

The kits, which will help libraries to encourage users to read and study poetry, will include a viewers' guide, programming and display ideas, clip art and a poster.

The series begins January 26 on most PBS stations.

Montana State Library News

Montana State Library
1100 University Avenue
Bozeman, Montana 59717
(406) 551-1111

Montana State Library Commission

Chairman: Mary Hudsouth

Members: Mary Hudsouth

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MONTANA STATE LIBRARY NEWS
CALENDAR OF EVENTS
1988

JANUARY

8 - 12	ALA Midwinter, San Antonio
15	Deadline for Faxnet Project Grant applications
21	Advisory Council, Bozeman
22	MLA Board, Bozeman

FEBRUARY

17	State Library Commission, Helena
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MONTANA STATE LIBRARY NEWS
November/December 1987

Ready reference help for librarians -

(800) 338-5087

Read about this FREE number in the
newsletter

REVISION OF THE LIBRARY FEDERATION LAW
DRAFT PREPARED BY LAW REVISION COMMITTEE

22-1-401 It is the policy of the Legislature to encourage the most efficient delivery of library services to the people of Montana. To that end, the state shall be divided into regions, within which all libraries desiring to participate in the distribution of such funding to libraries as may be available from time to time, shall organize into library federations to share resources, services and information.

Libraries may agree by contract to form a federation by action of their respective governing bodies. When a library federation shall have been established, the governing body of an entity maintaining a library may agree to participate in the library federation and shall be entitled to the benefits of the library federation and property within the federation boundaries shall be subject to taxation for library federation purposes. The library must be willing able to participate in the appropriate services and programs as determined by the federation.

22-1-404 In a library federation there shall be a governing board of not less than 5 or more than 15 members to be selected by the governing authorities of the participating libraries. The constitution of the federation governing board shall ensure fair and balanced representation of the participating libraries.

22-1-405 The governing board of the federation shall:

1. Have responsibility for the federation contract and amendments to the contract.
2. Adopt bylaws and policies for the transaction of its business and for the government of the federation not inconsistent with law.
3. Determine the administrative structure and provide for federation operations including federation staff.
4. Develop the plan of service and have responsibility for the implementation of the plan of service once it is approved by the Commission.
5. Exercise fiscal control over federation funds and report to the participating libraries and the State Library Commission.
6. Have the power to contract with other federations and entities, including interstate contracts.

The expense of providing library services for the library federation shall be based on funds received from the state or participating libraries as shall be agreed upon in contract. The governing board may also obtain or accept public and private funds from other sources. The funds of the federation shall be maintained as a separate account. Participating libraries shall transfer to the account all money collected for the federation in their respective jurisdiction. Any disagreement among participants in a library federation regarding the apportionment of funds or grants received from the State Library Commission shall be resolved by the State Library Commission.

22-1-412 It is the purpose of 22-1-412 and 22-1-413 to establish a program whereby state funds may be appropriated to the Montana State Library Commission to provide the benefits of quality public library service to all residents of Montana by developing and strengthening local public libraries through library federations as defined in 22-1-402.

22-1-413 The Montana State Library Commission shall receive and administer the appropriation for funding to library federations. The Commission shall allocate such appropriation among such types of grant programs and shall allocate funds among federations according to such distribution as it shall establish from time to time by rules adopted pursuant to 22-1-103. Federations receiving funds from the Commission shall report semiannually to the Commission concerning the progress of the various projects for which funding was received, which reports shall contain an accounting for all funds received.



MONTANA STATE LIBRARY

TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

STATE OF MONTANA

1515 E 6TH AVENUE

(406) 444-3115

HELENA, MONTANA 59601

MEMORANDUM

November 18, 1987

TO: Interested Parties

FROM: Law Revision Committee
Sara Parker, State Librarian, Chair

SUBJECT: Rationale used by the Law Revision Committee for the development of a new federation law

The following may be helpful as citizens, libraries and governing authorities consider proposed revision of MCA 22-1-401 through 22-1-413.

- (1) After seeking help and understanding from the Legislative Council, the Law Revision Committee chose to propose a general rather than a specific law on federations. This gives flexibility for local decision-making. Following the concepts of "home rule," it gives libraries who have historically worked together with a geographic region the latitude to develop as they think best. Federations have already developed along unique lines and no two are exactly alike. The committee believes a law giving flexibility and encouragement to continue this development is better than a specific law which might force federations into patterns that are not appropriate to a particular area.
- (2) The flexibility for the federations is enhanced by not mandating within the law the exact compositions of the governing boards, the establishment contracts, the by-laws of the federation and other formal parts of the structure. Each federation is allowed, and indeed encouraged, to make decisions for itself through determining the composition of the governing board, the language of the contracts and by-laws.

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- (3) The proposed law has the federations determining their own staffing arrangement rather than tying the staffing to the director of a specific library as is done in the current law. Federations will have a number of options which can be exercised in providing staffing. These could include contracting with individual libraries to provide staffing, arranging for a staff independent of any library, shared staffing with individual libraries or other federations, or contracting with individuals, and many other ways. The current law has presented problems for some federations, and the Law Revision Committee believes staffing should be a decision which is not specified in law.
- (4) The law would enable federations to decide for themselves how to use the resources of all libraries in a resource sharing arrangement rather than mandating a headquarters library. As in staffing, a variety of patterns may evolve. Some federations may wish to continue having a headquarters library. Others may choose to operate with two or more libraries serving as resource centers. Other federations may choose to cooperate on an equal basis without the designation of particular libraries. Again, the Law Revision Committee believes such decisions are best left to each federation.
- (5) The intent of the proposal is to have the governing authority of all the participating libraries select who serves on the governing board. The way this is to be done is left up to the federation. The law only requires the representation on the governing board be fair and balanced. Some federations may choose to have open elections in which anyone can run for a position. Others may choose to represent the federation area by county or other geographical basis. A federation could choose to structure a governing board based on the type of libraries who participate. It could choose to represent libraries by size or function. Because the law does not mandate a structure for the governing board, local decisions can again provide for unique development needed by the libraries themselves.